



**AARP Montana**  
30 W. 14th Street  
Suite 301  
Helena, MT 59601

T 1-866-295-7278  
F 406-441-2230  
TTY 1-877-434-7598  
[www.aarp.org/mt](http://www.aarp.org/mt)

**STATE ADMINISTRATION**

Exhibit No. 5  
Date 1/16/09  
Bill No. SB155

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

TO: Members of the Senate State Administration Committee

FROM: Joy Bruck, volunteer advocate AARP Montana

RE: SB 155, Require post-election audits of vote-counting machines

Mr. Chair and members of the committee, my name is Joy Bruck and I'm a volunteer advocate for AARP Montana. AARP Montana is a non-profit non-partisan organization of 165,000 members in this state. We believe the right to vote is the most basic of all political rights.

Since voting is one of the most empowering actions a citizen of the United States can make, it is imperative that we be sure that each vote is counted. Because of this, we are dedicated to the idea that each ballot-counting machine function properly –because for every vote lost a voice is lost. SB 155 provides for consistent measurement and testing of ballot-counting machines, therefore we strongly support the passage of this legislation.